

LOG OF MEETING

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Standards Technical Panel for Household Cooking Appliances

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PLACE: Underwriters Laboratories
Melville, NY

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CPSC PARTICIPANT:

Andrew Trotta, Engineering Sciences Directorate

NON-CPSC PARTICIPANTS:

Matt Carley, Hamilton Beach/Proctor-Silex
Mike Currao, Underwriters Laboratories (UL) Melville, NY
Bob DellaValle, UL/Melville
Steve Dinowitz, UL/Melville
Randy Hill, Whirlpool (KitchenAid)
Randy Hoover, Holmes
Larry Johnson, National Presto
Joseph Kata, Philips (Norelco)
Wayne Morris, Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers
Deborah Prince, UL/Research Triangle Park, NC
Jerry Schmidt, Metal Ware
John Smith, UL/Melville (STP Chairman)
Claire Vilano

SUMMARY:

This was the first meeting of the Standards Technical Panel (STP) for Household Cooking Appliances. This is an umbrella STP that covers UL 1026 – *Electric Household Cooking and Food Serving Appliances*, UL 1082 – *Household Electric Coffee Makers and Brewing-Type Appliances* and UL 1083 – *Household Electric Skillets and Frying-Type Appliances*. The objective of the STP is to act as a consensus body, which contributes to the development, maintenance and improvement of UL 1026, UL 1082 and UL 1083. Minutes of the meeting will be issued by UL. The STP Chairman is John Smith of UL, and the Secretary is Steve Dinowitz.

Deborah Prince gave a presentation on how the STP process works. The next topic was a proposal from UL to revise UL 1026 to include mechanical support for fiberglass rope heating elements used in slow cookers/crock pots. Although there was general support for the proposal, which was intended to address the problem of the heating elements becoming loose and melting the base of the crock pot, some members thought that the proposal should include performance requirements. UL will revise the proposal as discussed and circulate it for ballot.

The next topic was a discussion on whether a proposal should be developed to revise UL 1026 to allow open wire heating elements in automatic toasters to be electrically live while not in an energized state (producing heat). Presently, some designs have "bagel" or "defrost" modes in which some of the

elements are energized. A suggestion was made to allow this if the circuit containing the de-energized elements is broken with a switch located in the ungrounded or hot conductor.

The third discussion item was a UL proposal that would revise UL 1026 to include a liquid overflow test for mug warmers that have ventilation openings through which liquid could enter. The concern was related to potential shock risk that could occur if live electrical parts get wet. The proposal was generally accepted with suggestions to decrease the amount of water used depending on the intended size of the liquid-containing vessel and eliminate the visual inspection as a potential passing criterion. UL will revise the proposal as discussed and circulate it for ballot.

The fourth discussion topic was a UL proposal to revise UL 1082 to require a separate temperature-limiting device for all appliances unless the device can pass the appropriate abnormal tests with all thermally-responsive devices shorted. The issue was risk of fire created by appliances that have only one temperature device if the device fails short. Generally, the discussion was in support of the requirements, particularly for percolator-type coffee makers, but there were questions about the necessity of the requirements for other appliances such as electric tea kettles, which reportedly are not involved in fire incidents. The general opinion was to accept the proposal, but allow for a later effective date for appliances other than percolators. UL will circulate the proposal for ballot and will welcome comments regarding effective dates.

The final discussion topic was toaster ovens. The issue was if UL 1026 should be revised to address the risk of fire for toaster ovens that experience control component failures that cause them to stay on. Although there was some discussion regarding whether such changes were warranted, the panel appeared to agree that some revision to UL 1026 could be made to improve the standard. The STP Chairman set up a working group to discuss the issue further and develop the appropriate proposals. Bob DellaValle/UL was appointed to head the working group.